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IV. UNFPA/UNDP: REPORTS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1. The Executive Board decided to hold one discussion on these two sections of the item. Several delegations expressed overall satisfaction with the reports while some asked for more substance and information on problems faced, for which the Economic and Social Council could provide guidance. Others underlined the key role of the General Assembly and Council in defining the responsibilities of the organizations in follow-up to ICPD and WSSD. One speaker asked whether there was any duplication between UNDP and UNFPA in the follow-up to ICPD. Discussion specific to UNFPA and UNDP, respectively, follows.

A. United Nations Population Fund

2. The Deputy Executive Director (Technical Services) of UNFPA pointed out in his introduction to document DP/1995/24 (Part III) that one of the primary concerns of UNFPA in the follow-up to ICPD was to adjust its country programmes to bring them better in line with the ICPD Programme of Action. He noted the progress made by the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and its working groups. He further noted that, as proposed by the Commission on Population and Development at its twenty-eighth session, UNFPA would be responsible for reporting, on an annual basis, on programme experience in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action at the country level. He reiterated the UNFPA intention to cooperate with NGOs in the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, taking into account the earlier comments made by members of the Executive Board on that issue. With regard to the follow-up to the WSSD, he said that UNFPA was pleased that the Programme of Action of the WSSD had endorsed the goals of the ICPD. At the international level, the Fund would continue to work to further develop the 20/20-concept, in close collaboration with UNDP and UNICEF and within the framework as adopted in Copenhagen. He pledged UNFPA support for the development of a broad United

Nations system-wide framework for the follow-up to all major international conferences and informed the Executive Board of efforts under way in the United Nations system on the issue.

3. Most delegations welcomed UNFPA efforts in the follow-up to ICPD and WSSD, and in particular its coordinating role in the follow-up to ICPD. Many delegations also stressed the importance of inter-agency collaboration and the comparative advantages of each organization in the follow-up to both conferences.

4. On the issue of a separate executive board for UNFPA, several delegations noted that the matter would be further discussed at the Economic and Social Council in June/July 1995. One delegation commented that the report on the follow-up to ICPD did not refer to General Assembly resolution 49/127 on international migration and development. He also questioned the reference in the report on the follow-up to the ICPD to draft document E/CN.9/1995/L.3/Add.1 on the twenty-eighth session of the Commission on Population and Development, noting that the draft document did not properly reflect the provisions spelled out in General Assembly resolution 49/128 on the renaming of the Commission.

5. The Deputy Executive Director (Technical Services) thanked the members of the Executive Board for their constructive comments on the reports. He noted that the lack of substance in the reports was due primarily to problems of timing and planning, but added that the UNFPA report should be read in conjunction with document DP/1995/25 on programme priorities and future directions of UNFPA in light of the ICPD. He expected the reports of the four working groups of the inter-agency task force to be available by the time the Economic and Social Council met in June/July 1995. He informed the Executive Board that a separate report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 19/127 would be submitted to the Council in June/July 1995, prepared for the Secretary-General by the Department of Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis. He also reiterated the UNFPA commitment to cooperate fully with the other United Nations agencies and organizations in the follow-up to ICPD and WSSD.